

REMARKS

This response is being filed within three months of the Office Action dated January 7, 2005.

By this response claim 31 has been amended to incorporate the limitations of claim 32, and claim 32 has been canceled. Claims 16-19, 27-31 and 33-39 are pending in the application. Claims 16, 27, 31, 36 and 39 are in independent form. No fees are due with this response.

In the Office Action dated January 7, 2005, the Examiner states that claims 31 and 34 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as allegedly being unpatentable over Osborne et al. (U.S. Patent No. 5,712,668) in view of Matsui et al. (U.S. Patent No. 5,896,143). In the Office Action the Examiner also states that claims 32-33 and 35 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

By this response Applicant has amended independent claim 31 to incorporate the limitations of dependent claim 32 and has canceled claim 32. Accordingly, Applicant believes that claims 31, and 33-35 are in condition for allowance and respectfully requests the same.

In the Office Action dated January 7, 2005, the Examiner states that claims 16-19, 27-30 and 36-39 are allowed. Accordingly, by amendment of claim 31 in this

response Applicant believes the application is in condition for allowance and respectfully requests the same.

If the Examiner should have any questions regarding this response, a call to Applicant's counsel, Ms. Ingrid M. McTaggart at (503) 230-7934, is respectfully requested. If the Examiner should have any other questions regarding the above referenced application, a call to Applicant's counsel Mr. Robert D. Wasson at (360) 212-2338, is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited as first class mail in an envelope addressed to the Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on this 15<sup>F</sup> day of April, 2005.

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